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CLASSIFICATION TOP SECRET	
COUNTRY <u>Soviet Zone of Germany</u>	25X1
REPORT NO. <u> </u>	25X1
TOPIC <u>Brandenburg-Briest Airfield</u>	
EVALUATION <u> </u>	25X1
PLACE OBTAINED <u>25X1</u>	<u> </u>
DATE OF CONTENT <u>5 to 14 June 1950</u>	
DATE OBTAINED <u> </u>	DATE PREPARED <u>18 July 1950</u>
REFERENCES <u> </u>	25X1
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1. The Brandenburg-Briest (N 53/4 13) airfield was guarded by double patrols on 5 June 1950. Some of the patrols were accompanied by watchdogs. Local residents said that the northern section of the field was particularly well guarded.
2. Twenty-three jet fighters with swept-back wings were seen at the field between 5:30 and 7:30 p.m. on 5 June 1950. (1) The sky was clear between 10:30 pm. and midnight, and jet fighters practiced night flying over the field. (2) Preparations for night flying included bringing a searchlight and a radar set into position.
3. The weather was fair on 6 June 1950 but no flights were made. Twenty-five jet fighters were counted at the field.
4. Eighteen jet fighters were parked at the western end of the runway between 9 a.m. and 2:30 p.m. on 7 June 1950. (1) There was flying activity by jet fighters up to 1 p.m. The planes took off in groups of two at intervals of two minutes, making local flights of 15 minutes duration. They landed individually at intervals of about two minutes. Individual conventional fighters were at the southern edge of the field near the airfield buildings.
5. On all three days of observation a twin-engine transport coming from the west landed at 3 p.m.. It took off shortly afterwards heading east.
6. The jet planes were refueled from tank trucks, five of which were standing at the take-off point and others on the southwestern edge of the field in a camouflaged position. (3)

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The old fuel dump, which was not guarded, was southwest of the field where there was a tank about 6 meters long and 2 meters in diameter.

7. The field personnel were quartered in the Landesanstalt and in a few airfield buildings on the southern edge of the field. The outlying part of the Briest farm was also occupied and some artillerymen were seen there. Passenger cars [redacted]

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8. A stationary radio station, with braced antenna masts each 12 to 15 meters high, and three trucks with box-like superstructures were on the southwestern edge of the field. A trailer with a box-like superstructure was in position south of the western end of the runway. Before night flying started on 5 June 1950, two trucks with box-like superstructures were in position beside the searchlight on the northwestern edge of the field. Equipment similar to that seen at the Grossenhain (N 52/A 01) airfield was mounted on the roof of one truck. However, the frame with seven dipoles was still not erected. (4) The searchlight and the two trucks were not in position on 6 and 7 June 1950.

9. Obstacle lights could not be seen. Three searchlights were in use at the field during night flying activity. A ramp of pile logs, about 1.6 meters high, was erected on the right side of the Plauze (N 53/4 13) - Briest road, at kilometer station 2.7. Truck [redacted] carrying a searchlight mounted on four steel wheels, and two operators, was standing in front of the ramp at 6:30 p.m. on 5 June 1950 ready to drive up. A cable led from the ramp to the airfield.

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10. Twelve jet fighters with swept-back wings and 15 single-engine low-wing monoplanes with radial engines were standing on the eastern edge of the field on 9 and 14 June 1950. (1)

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11. Several night flights were made by jet fighters between 9 p.m. and mid-night after 10 June 1950. (2) The planes had navigation lights and fired red flares at irregular intervals. The field was illuminated by searchlights during the flights.

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12. [redacted]

- 25X1 [redacted] comments.

- (1) The occupation of the field by type 14 jet planes was confirmed by several sources. A maximum of 28 planes of this type have been seen at the field to date. On the basis of observations at other airfields in the Soviet Zone of Germany, each fighter regiment appears to be equipped with about 30 jet planes. Three

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squadrons of each fighter regiment in the Soviet Zone have possibly been reequipped with jet planes whereas the fourth squadron is still equipped with conventional fighters.

- (2) First report that night flights were made by jet fighters at the Brandenburg-Briest airfield. Night flights by jet fighters were also observed at other airfields.
- (3) Jet planes are being refueled only from tank trucks. The same observation was made at other airfields occupied by jet planes.
- (4) The radio cars, one with an antenna with seven dipoles on top, were observed for the first time in Brandenburg-Briest. Such equipment has been seen at the airfields in Peenemuende, Grossenhain, Alt-Loennowitz and Oranienburg. This equipment is apparently used for fighter units. No information is available on the exact employment and operation of the equipment. Equipment is possibly a radio beacon. To date it has not been seen with ground or bomber units.

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